



# City Administrator's Report

January 2010

Dear Reader,

*Each month, this report from the City Administrator's Office provides a brief summary and update of major activities, events, projects, and programs that impact the Santa Barbara community. Feel free to send me your comments and suggestions.*

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## **Key Meetings**

<b><i>City Council Meeting</i></b>	Tuesday, January 26 <sup>th</sup> , February 2 <sup>nd</sup> , 9 <sup>th</sup> , and 23 <sup>rd</sup> at 2 p.m. in City Hall Council Chambers at 735 Anacapa Street.
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## **Community Events**

<b><i>Harriet Miller Youth Leadership Award Scholarship Luncheon</i></b>	Thursday, January 14 <sup>th</sup> , from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at the Canary Hotel at 31 West Carrillo Street. The Santa Barbara Youth Council and the Downtown Organization will present the Harriet Miller Youth Leadership Award Scholarship to a local high school student.
<b><i>Annual Rose Pruning</i></b>	Saturday, January 16 <sup>th</sup> starting at 9 a.m. Volunteers are encouraged to help prune roses at the A.C. Postel Memorial Rose Garden to ensure healthy blooms during the spring and summer.
<b><i>Martin Luther King, Jr. Day</i></b>	Monday, January 18 <sup>th</sup> . City offices closed.
<b><i>2010 South Coast Census Kick-off Event</i></b>	Thursday, January 21 <sup>st</sup> , from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. in the Central Library's Faulkner Gallery at 40 East Anapamu Street. The event will provide information to the public about the 2010 Census.
<b><i>Book Sale</i></b>	Saturday, January 30 <sup>th</sup> from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the Central Library's Faulkner Gallery at 40 East Anapamu Street. First edition and autographed books, posters, and art will be on sale.
<b><i>Furlough Day</i></b>	Friday, February 12 <sup>th</sup> . City offices closed.
<b><i>Presidents' Day</i></b>	Monday, February 15 <sup>th</sup> . City offices closed.

## Flags on State Street

<b><i>GaySantaBarbara.org</i></b>	January 8 <sup>th</sup> through 15 <sup>th</sup>
<b><i>Planned Parenthood</i></b>	January 15 <sup>th</sup> through 25 <sup>th</sup>
<b><i>Santa Barbara Beautiful</i></b>	January 25 <sup>th</sup> through February 4 <sup>th</sup>

## City Administrator's Office

***Reorganization of City Administrator's Office.*** City Administrator Jim Armstrong has reorganized the City Administrator's Office after the recent retirement of Assistant City Administrator Joan Kent. Instead of filling the vacant position of Assistant City Administrator, two Department Heads will assume additional roles and responsibilities. Marcelo Lopez now holds the position of Assistant City Administrator/Administrative Services and Paul Casey has been appointed the Assistant City Administrator/Community Development. Together, Marcelo and Paul have 25 years of service with the City and bring a wealth of experience to the positions. The reorganization will save the City \$200,000 annually.

***Fiscal Year 2011 Budget Preparation Underway.*** This month, City departments will begin preparing their Fiscal Year 2011 recommended budgets for Council review and adoption in the spring. The City of Santa Barbara is facing an estimated \$9 million budget shortfall in the Fiscal Year 2011 General Fund budget, approximately 9% of the City's General Fund. Balancing strategies will include a combination of 1) department budget cuts, 2) structural budget changes, 3) increased fees and other revenues, and 4) delays to capital improvements.

The Fiscal Year 2011 Recommended Budget is tentatively scheduled for presentation to Council on April 20, 2010, marking the beginning of Council and public review. Budget review meetings will be held with the City Council through June, culminating in the Council's adoption of the budget by June 30th.

***2010 Census.*** The U.S. Census Bureau counts every resident in the United States, and is required by the Constitution to conduct a census every ten years. The 2010 Census will help communities receive more than \$400 billion in federal funds each year to support hospitals, schools, highway and road projects, and emergency services. In March of 2010, census forms will be delivered to every home. Residents must answer ten short questions and mail the form back using the pre-paid postage envelope. Personal data that is provided to the census is private and protected under federal law. The majority of forms will be in English, however households in areas with high concentrations of Spanish-speaking residents may receive a bilingual form. Census Takers may visit the homes of residents who fail to return the form.

The 2010 Census Bureau is recruiting for the position of Census Taker, which includes flexible hours and pay starting at \$15.50 per hour. People who are interested in applying for the job should call (866) 861-2010 or visit: <http://2010.census.gov/2010censusjobs/>.

For more information about the 2010 Census, residents are encouraged to attend the South Coast Census Kick-off Event on Thursday, January 21<sup>st</sup>, from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. in the Central Library's Faulkner Gallery at 40 East Anapamu Street.

## **Administrative Services Department**

***New Mayor and Councilmembers Sworn In.*** On Tuesday, January 12<sup>th</sup>, Mayor-Elect Helene Schneider, re-elected Councilmember Grant House, and new Councilmembers Bendy White, Frank Hotchkiss, and Michael Self were sworn in. City Clerk Cyndi Rodriguez administered the Affirmation of Allegiance and presented the official Certificates of Election. After a reception, the new Mayor and Council presided over their first City Council meeting. The City Council appointed Grant House to serve as Mayor Pro Tempore and selected members of the Ordinance and Finance Committees. The Ordinance Committee will be comprised of Councilmembers Bendy White (Chair), Grant House, and Frank Hotchkiss. The Finance Committee will consist of Councilmembers Das Williams (Chair), Dale Francisco, and Michael Self. On Tuesday, January 26<sup>th</sup>, the new Councilmembers will appoint Council liaisons to various Boards and Commissions.

## **Airport Department**

***Airline Terminal Construction on Schedule.*** Since last year's groundbreaking of the Airline Terminal Project, the new terminal site was graded and work is underway to underground utilities for the building pad. The 67,000 square foot airline terminal is expected to be complete in early 2011. The project includes construction of a reconfigured short-term parking lot and a wider, longer loop road with a separate lane for public transportation. The historic portion of the existing 1942 Terminal is scheduled to open in late 2011 after it is relocated next to the new Terminal. The City expects to achieve Leadership and Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) certification for this project.

***Call for New Airline Terminal Concessionaires.*** Once completed in 2011, the new Airline Terminal building will have additional space for multiple food, beverage, and retail vendors for travelers' convenience. The City is encouraging local retailers and restaurateurs to consider participating as new concessionaires. A Request for Proposals was released in December and applications are due on Monday, February 18<sup>th</sup> by 3 p.m. For more information, call Assistant Airport Director Hazel Johns at 967-7111 or visit: [www.flysba.com](http://www.flysba.com) under the "Doing Business with SBA" tab.

***Call for New Terminal Art.*** The Airport's Public Art Program is seeking artists to create and install public art to be incorporated in the new Airline Terminal building. Artists are being called upon to participate in the stenciling of wood ceiling beams, wrought iron embellishments for interior railings, and rotunda floor medallion design and installation for the north entrance. This art will be viewed in the new Airline Terminal by over 2,000 people everyday and will help create a public art venue that reflects the rich history and culture of the community. For more information, contact the Santa Barbara Arts Commission's Visual Arts Coordinator [Rita Ferri](mailto:Rita.Ferri@flsba.com) or visit: [www.flysba.com](http://www.flysba.com).

**Water System Improvements Nearing Completion.** Construction crews are installing a new 4,128 foot waterline at the Airline Terminal ramp area. The new piping is located in the Airport Operations Area (AOA) and provides redundant water feed for the terminal system. This water feed will ensure that there are no interruptions to water service during repairs in the AOA. Construction of the new waterline began last November and is expected to be completed this month.

## Community Development Department

**Revisiting the Medical Marijuana Dispensary Ordinance.** The City's Medical Marijuana Dispensary Ordinance, which outlines the requirements for proper location, operation, and procedures for medical marijuana dispensaries, was adopted in 2008. In 2009, City Council directed the Ordinance Committee to review the legislation, and recommend revisions to the ordinance. Proposed ordinance amendments will return to Council in February. Additionally, last month City Council adopted an ordinance to suspend the opening of new medical marijuana dispensaries for 45 days, pending Council's ongoing review. On Tuesday, January 26<sup>th</sup>, City Council will be asked to extend the moratorium. For more information, contact Senior Planner Danny Kato at [DKato@SantaBarbaraCA.gov](mailto:DKato@SantaBarbaraCA.gov).

**Panhandling Education and Alternative Giving Campaign.** In late 2009, City Council approved the Panhandling Education and Alternative Giving Campaign. The goal of this campaign includes educating the public about the negative cycle of giving to panhandlers. This campaign will redirect charitable giving through the use of counter-top donation boxes located in stores. All funds raised through the campaign will be used for street outreach services for homeless individuals.

The campaign is a collaboration between the City, local businesses, and non-profit organizations. The alternative giving element of the campaign will be managed by Casa Esperanza, while the Downtown Organization will provide leadership and management of the program. Clergy and Laity United for Economic Justice will secure sponsors for the program. The Chamber of Commerce, Conference and Visitors Bureau, Greater Santa Barbara Restaurant and Lodging Association, and Metropolitan Transit District will assist in educating the business community and researching advertising opportunities. For more information, contact Redevelopment Specialist Jeannette Candau at 564-5461 or Bill Collyer with the Downtown Organization at 962-2098.

## Finance Department

**Transient Occupancy Tax and Sales Tax.** October and November Transient Occupancy Tax (TOT) revenue fell short of budget projections. The estimate for November TOT assumed a 2% decline, but was actually 11.9% below November of the previous year. Year-to-date, TOT is down 13.5% from the previous year. The revised TOT estimate for Fiscal Year 2010 is \$11,351,970 and assumes an overall 5.7% decline from the prior year.

An 11.5% decline in sales tax was projected for the September 2009 quarter, but there was a 16.9% decline over the September quarter from the previous year. This is the seventh

consecutive quarterly decline and the fourth consecutive double-digit decline. The revised budget for sales tax assumes an overall 3.5% decline for the fiscal year.

***Where's Your Bag? Campaign Prize Patrol.*** The City, California Grocers Association, Channelkeeper, Choose to Reuse, Marborg Industries, Tri-County Produce, and other local grocers have joined together to create the *Where's Your Bag?* Campaign. The goal of the campaign is to educate the public about the negative environmental effects of plastic and paper single-use bags and to promote the use of reusable shopping bags. As part of this campaign, shoppers who use reusable bags at certain local grocery stores are eligible to win prizes. When customers shop at participating stores, the *Where's Your Bag?* Prize Patrol may surprise and reward select shoppers with a gift. To find out which stores are participating in this campaign, visit: [www.WheresYourBag.com](http://www.WheresYourBag.com).

## Fire Department

***Winter Weather Preparedness.*** During the winter season, the Fire Department is reminding residents about proper and safe ways to heat homes. In case of a fire emergency, residents should keep a multi-purpose, dry-chemical fire extinguisher near their fireplace, stove, or other heating device. These devices should only be used if they are properly vented to the outside. Space heaters should be placed at least three feet away from drapes, furniture, or any material that may catch on fire and should never be left unattended or covered. Space heater cords should never be placed under carpets or rugs. Residents should never use generators, grills, or camp stoves indoors. For more information, visit: <http://www.SantaBarbaraCA.gov/OES>.

## Library Department

***SB Reads Joins UCSB Reads.*** This month, the Library System has begun to partner with the UCSB Reads program, which engages the community in a series of conversations, lectures, readings, and other activities based on issues generated by a chosen novel. This year's book is *Enrique's Journey*, written by Sonia Nazario. This book documents the journey of a Honduran boy, Enrique, as he tries to find his mother in North Carolina. The UCSB Library will give away 2,500 copies of the book to students and the Public Library will have copies of the book, in English and Spanish, available on loan. Over the next two months, panel discussions will be held with UCSB professors and community experts. Other activities, including screenings of related films, will be held at the Central Library. For more information on upcoming events, visit: [www.SBPLibrary.org](http://www.SBPLibrary.org).

***Volunteer Day of Service.*** The Central Library will be closed on Monday, January 18<sup>th</sup> for the Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday. Although the Library will be closed, volunteers will be inside reorganizing shelves and putting misplaced books in their proper areas. The Library welcomes volunteers to help with this project. For information on volunteer orientation sessions, visit: [www.SBPLibrary.org](http://www.SBPLibrary.org).

***Special Book Sale.*** *Friends of the Santa Barbara Library* is a non-profit group that raises funds for Library services. The group will host a wine and cheese reception on Friday, January 29<sup>th</sup>, from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. in the Central Library's Faulkner Gallery at 40 East Anapamu Street. The event will kick-off the Library's sale of autographed and first edition books, posters, original

1930s etchings, and other art. Members of the *Friends of the Santa Barbara Library* can attend the reception for \$15 and non-members can join the group and attend the event for \$35. The special book sale is free and open to the public on Saturday, January 30<sup>th</sup>, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

## Parks and Recreation Department

**Youth Leadership Scholarship Recipient Chosen.** The Santa Barbara Youth Council and the Downtown Organization have chosen the recipient of the Harriet Miller Youth Leadership Awards Scholarship. Out of 12 applicants, San Marcos High School senior Katie Shara was chosen to receive a \$500 academic scholarship. Katie was selected for her leadership skills, academic achievements, and community service. The award and scholarship check will be presented to Katie at a luncheon on Thursday, January 14<sup>th</sup>, at the Canary Hotel at 31 West Carrillo Street from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

**Carrillo Recreation Center Restoration.** The Carrillo Recreation Center at 100 East Carrillo Street is a designated historic City landmark and has a history of serving the community as a recreation facility and a shelter during disasters. The building has several seismic inadequacies, dilapidated building systems, and does not meet Building Code or Americans with Disability Act (ADA) requirements. Currently, a restoration project is underway to completely rehabilitate the building. The restoration includes office improvements, structural upgrades, ADA accessibility improvements, and a new fire alarm system. As part of the project, many of its original architectural features will be restored. The project is expected to be completed in December 2010.

**Help Everything Come Up Roses.** The Parks and Recreation Department and the Rose Society are requesting volunteers to help prune the award-winning A.C. Postel Memorial Rose Garden adjacent to the Santa Barbara Mission on Saturday, January 16<sup>th</sup>. If it rains on this day, the event will be postponed to Saturday, January 23<sup>rd</sup>. The garden contains an accredited, All-American Rose selection of over 1,500 plants. The annual pruning is necessary to ensure abundant blooms for the spring and summer. Rosarians will help volunteers with proper rose pruning techniques. Volunteers should wear work clothes with long pants and sleeves, safety glasses, and leather gloves. Hand pruners, a leaf rake, and a loper are recommended items to bring to the event. For more information, call the Parks Division at 564-5433.

**Discount Offered for New Party Venue.** The City is offering special pricing for one of their new party venues, the Twelve35 Teen Center at 1235 Chapala Street. Twelve35 is a spacious and kid-friendly venue to hold parties and includes a pool table, foosball, video games, a recording studio, and snack bar. Parents who complete their reservations before Friday, April 30<sup>th</sup> can book the venue for three hours for the price of two hours for up to 40 guests. Parents can visit this new party venue on weekdays after 3 p.m. and reservations can be made by calling 897-2589.

## Police Department

**DUI Checkpoints.** The enforcement of DUI violations or driving while intoxicated remains a top priority for the City of Santa Barbara. To ensure that drunk drivers stay off the streets, the



Police Department uses a fleet of patrol officers, a dedicated DUI enforcement officer, and twice monthly DUI Checkpoints. In December alone, 57 people were arrested for driving under the influence. The Police Department achieved its goal of preventing DUI fatalities or serious injuries this holiday season. The growing number of 9-1-1 calls reporting impaired drivers shows that the community cares about the safety of its streets.

## Public Works Department

***Lower Mission Creek Flood Control Project Moves Forward.*** The Lower Mission Creek Flood Control Project will widen the creek channel to increase flood flow capacity to reduce flooding and property damage. The 1.3 mile-long project is located along Mission Creek from Canon Perdido Street to Cabrillo Boulevard to the ocean. The project is a joint effort by the City, the Santa Barbara County Flood Control and Water Conservation District, and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

The Lower Mission Creek Flood Control Project is being constructed over several years as additional funding becomes available. Recently, the City was awarded \$600,000 in ARRA (American Recovery and Reinvestment Act) funds. These funds will be applied to the \$845,333 contract for the final channel design. Funds have not yet been secured for construction of the project, but the City and the Santa Barbara Flood Control District are working with federal officials and Congressional representatives to secure funding. For updates on the project, visit: [www.LowerMissionCreek.org](http://www.LowerMissionCreek.org).

***Partial Funding Received for Bridge Replacement Projects.*** The Chapala, Cota, and Mission Street Bridges along Mission Creek will be replaced to increase flood water capacity and enhance recreational opportunities and riparian habitat. Bridge replacement is a multi-year process that includes design, right-of-way acquisition, and construction. The City has received funding from the Federal Highway Bridge Program for the design of these three bridges. The bridges will be replaced in concert with the Lower Mission Creek Flood Control Project.

***Haley and De la Vina Bridge Replacement Project.*** This month, construction began on the Haley and De la Vina Bridge Replacement Project. The structurally-deficient bridge was originally built in 1915 and must be replaced to meet current safety requirements for earthquake, vehicles and pedestrians, and water flow. The project includes replacing the deteriorating bridge, improving pedestrian areas, and restoring a portion of Mission Creek. The intersection of Haley and De la Vina Streets will remain closed until the spring of 2011. During the next few months, construction will include temporary utility relocations, installation of temporary fencing and road restriping, pile driving and shoring installations, and excavation work. Demolition of the bridge is expected to begin in late spring of this year and the entire project is anticipated to be complete in spring of 2011. The majority of construction will take place on weekdays between 7 a.m. and 5 p.m. Some nighttime or weekend construction may occur as needed. For updates on the project and for road detour information, visit: [www.SantaBarbaraCA.gov/HaleyBridge](http://www.SantaBarbaraCA.gov/HaleyBridge).

***Cliff Drive Utility Undergrounding Project.*** The City, Southern California Edison, Verizon, and Cox Cable are working together to remove overhead utility poles along Cliff Drive from Salida del Sol to Mesa Lane. The project consists of installing new underground vaults and conduits, placing new street lights along Cliff Drive, and connecting the new underground utility



lines to businesses and homes. Businesses near the area are open during construction. The project is expected to be complete by late 2010.

**West Downtown Pedestrian Project.** The West Downtown Pedestrian Project is underway and construction is expected to continue until March 2010. The goals of the project are to improve pedestrian safety and enhance the neighborhood's sense-of-place. The majority of construction activity will take place at eight intersections from Castillo to Chapala Streets along Ortega and Anapamu Streets. Project elements include pedestrian-oriented lighting, sidewalk replacement as needed, enhanced crosswalks, bulb-outs, new street trees, and drought-tolerant landscaping.

## Waterfront Department

**Marina One Replacement Project.** The majority of Marina One was originally constructed in the 1970's. The concrete docking system is showing signs of deterioration and must be replaced. In mid-November, work on the first phase of the Marina One Replacement Project, which includes upgrading the shoreside electrical system. This phase of the project includes construction of a new electrical shed and switchgear, trenching and installation of an electrical conduit, and installation of submarine electrical cable between the travel lift pier and the base of the gangway. Phase One of the project will continue throughout January.

**Waterfront Annual Parking Permits.** Residents or visitors who frequently use the waterfront parking lots are encouraged to purchase Annual Waterfront Parking permits. People who park in these lots can save money by purchasing permits for \$95 instead of paying for the hourly rate each time they park in the lots. Parking permits for slipholders cost \$70. Permits can be purchased with cash at the waterfront parking kiosk across from the Breakwater Restaurant located at 107 Harbor Way. All credit card purchases for the permits must be made at the Harbormaster's Office at 132 Harbor Way, Suite A. Permits are valid through December 31, 2010. For more parking information, call the Waterfront Parking Office at 564-5523.